  **U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe**

**Ambassador’s Youth Council Kansai**

**Spring 2021**

The American Consulate invites ten highly motivated Japanese undergraduate students with demonstrated leadership skills and interest in the United States and U.S.-Japan relations to participate in a six-month-long seminar.

**Program period:** May2021 – October 2021

**Venue:** Online via Zoom

**Program Period:** Once a month seminar, May 2021 – October 2021 (Times and dates are TBC)

1. Kick off session, May 20, Thursday, 19:00-20:30

2. Second session, June17, Thursday, 19:00-20:30

3. Third session, July 15, Thursday, 19:00-20:30

4. Fourth session, August 19, Thursday, 19:00–20:30

5. Fifth session, September 16, Thursday, 19:00–20:30

6. Closing session, October 16, Saturday, 16:00–20:00 (in person in Osaka or Nishinomiya)

**Program Goals:**

· Cultivate a greater understanding of the United States and the U.S.-Japan alliance;

· Provide a venue for youth leaders to ask questions and express their views on a wide range of topics including U.S. foreign policy and other topics of mutual interest, such as pressing social issues, the role of technology, and the implications of human resources on growing economies;

· Foster skills characteristic of leaders, skills used in giving presentations, communicating in English, and articulating one’s thoughts in a public forum;

· Build connections between the Consulate and youth in order for the Consulate to gain insight into the views and needs of Japan’s young generation;

· Help youth leaders grow their networks so that they, as advocates, can reinforce attitudes and change behaviors of their peers in favor of strengthening the U.S.-Japan alliance.

**Attendance policy:** All members are expected to participate in all of the sessions. If the student cannot make it to a session, s/he must notify the Consulate at least two weeks prior to the session s/he will miss.

**Candidate Description and Qualifications:**

· Japanese citizen or legal permanent resident;

· Undergraduate student, 25 years of age or younger (as of June 1, 2021) with an interest in international relations and/or U.S. foreign policy;

· Attending university in Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Wakayama, Nara, Shiga, Fukui, Ishikawa, Toyama, Tottori, Shimane, Okayama, Hiroshima, Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, and Kochi;

· English fluency to discuss global issues;

· Sustained high level of academic achievement. Fields of study can vary, and may include the humanities, sciences, journalism, communications, education, and business;

· Strong leadership qualities and extracurricular participation in university and community;

· Willing and able to participate fully in an intensive academic program including homework reading assignments, essay assignments, mid-term output projects, a final presentation project and other extra activities offered by the Embassy.

**Application and deadline:** Interested students are requested to submit the online application form via the URL below **by Friday, April 16, noon**, JST. The Consulate will review applications and contact finalists for interview by May 7.

[**https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/86b6e4df139989**](https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/86b6e4df139989) **(Accessible from PC only)**

If preferred, a letter of recommendation may be sent directly to us at nishibuyx@state.gov.

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